

REMARKS

Applicant has rewritten Claim 2 into independent form in a manner that avoids the informalities discussed in Paragraph 4 of the Office Action. It is submitted that Claim 2 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 has also been amended and it is submitted that as amended, Claim 1 is patentable over the prior art. It is submitted that claim 1, as amended, both possesses novelty over the prior art and inventive step. Claim 1 now specifies "each ribbed ply comprises a flat ply having first and second flat sides" and further specifies "a plurality of flat ribs, said ribs having fixed edges secured to the first side of the flat ply and opposite free edges." Claim 1, as amended, also specifies "creating a stack of said ribbed plies by adhesively attaching said ribbed plies together with the second side of each said ply against said free edges of said ribs on an adjacent ribbed ply." Claim 1 concludes by specifying "creating said cellular cores by cutting slices off said stack of ribbed plies, cutting perpendicular to said ribs."

Mankey 332, 722, the only applied reference, does not disclose a ribbed ply construction having a flat ply and a plurality of flat ribs. Rather, Mankey 332, 722 provides planks or boards of wood that are routed to form longitudinal valleys between what may be referred to as ridges. The basic panel structure is not "flat". The ridges are not "flat" members having an inner edge secured to the flat ply, such as by gluing, and a free outer edge. There is no disclosure in Mankey 332, 722 of using an adhesive to connect free edges of flat ribs to a flat side of an adjacent ribbed ply.

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The Examiner has not presented any additional prior art that would make it obvious to construct the ribbed plies in the manner described by Claim 1. It is submitted that amended Claims 1 and 2 are allowable, together with previously allowed Claims 4 and 5. Early reconsideration and allowance of the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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